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4 October 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence,  
Department of the Air Force

SUBJECT : Request for NPIC "Target Briefs"

REFERENCE : AFCIN Memo, dated 22 August 1961, Subject: Headquarters USAF Requirement for National Photo Interpretation Center's IEM Card Deck for Target Briefs (U)

1. The "target briefs" developed by the National Photographic Interpretation Center (NPIC) over a period of several years were designed to provide a summary of information, much of it unevaluated, useful to the Photo Interpreter in identifying facilities located during the immediate readout operation at NPIC. The Center initially prepared by itself "target briefs" on the 300-400 highest priority COMOR targets on the Soviet Bloc. For summaries on an additional 3000-4000 priority 2 targets submitted to COMOR by Army, Navy, USAF and CIA, COMOR participants having primary interest in particular types of targets were asked to help. Several of the participants agreed to contribute with the stipulation that the "target briefs" not be disseminated by NPIC inasmuch as they consisted of unevaluated data intended only for the guidance of the PI. Personnel of your command have made several verbal requests for these "target briefs", but in view of agreements not to disseminate this unevaluated data such requests have been refused pointing out that while working at NPIC on joint readout, USAF personnel would be and have been given full access to them.

2. I realize that the USAF would like to put the NPIC "target briefs" into the hands of every analyst working with KEYHOLE photography. However, in accordance with agreements described and in view of the

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unevaluated and changing content of the "briefs", I feel obliged to restrict the use of these materials to the OAK scan and MCI readout for identification purposes as performed by NPIC under terms of NSCID 8.

3. For these "target briefs" to be of value to NSTDB, SIOP, JSTPS, COMOR and Unified and Specified Commands, it would be necessary for NPIC to isolate and validate data by specific source. Such action obviously is not within the purview of NPIC. However, NPIC will continue to provide AFIC with IBM cards of each KEYHOLE MCI for incorporation into its computer records and the substance of these cards is in effect the product of the photographic interpretation process utilizing the "target briefs" in the manner for which they were intended.

4. I hope you will be understanding of the position in which your request places me and the reasons why I cannot comply with it. In the event that you feel the matter should be pursued further, I will be happy to stop by your office upon request.

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ARTHUR C. LUNDAHL  
Director

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